Attorney Dkt. No.: 43314/236950

CABLE BILLING SYSTEMS AND METHODS ENABLING INDEPENDENCE OF SERVICE MARKETING AND PROVISIONING FROM BILLING AND COLLECTION OF REVENUE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Systems and methods that divide the billing function of a billing system from the provisioning function of a service in digital cable systems. Because the billing system is only responsible for billing, rather than the provisioning of services, new services may be quickly added to cable systems without the time consuming and expensive task of configuring the billing system specifically for new services added to the system. The services are implemented using an offering package created by the service, where the offering package contains billing related information forwarded to the billing system to bill for the service.

15

10

5

20